

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
ENVIRONMENT, FORESTS AND CLIMATE CHANGE
LOK SABHA**

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:2682

ANSWERED ON:02.08.2016

Cutting of Apple Trees

Kashyap Shri Virender

Will the Minister of ENVIRONMENT, FORESTS AND CLIMATE CHANGE be pleased to state:

- (a) whether there are reports that apple trees are being cut and destroyed in Himachal Pradesh;
- (b) if so, the details thereof including the number of trees damaged by the Government Department;
- (c) the loss suffered as a result thereof;
- (d) whether the Government would take any initiative to save green forest and issue advisory to the State Government in this regard; and
- (e) if so, the details thereof?

Answer

MINISTER OF STATE (INDEPENDENT CHARGE) FOR ENVIRONMENT, FOREST AND CLIMATE CHANGE

(SHRI ANIL MADHAV DAVE)

(a) to (c) No, Sir. There is no report that apple trees are being cut and destroyed in Himachal Pradesh. However, heavy pruning of apple trees planted on the encroached forest land is being done, in compliance of the orders dated 06.04.2015, 27.02.2016 and 27.07.2016 passed by the Hon'ble High Court of Himachal Pradesh.

(d)&(e) There are a number of Central Acts and Rules such as Indian Forest Act, 1927, Wildlife (Protection) Act, 1972 and Forest (Conservation) Act, 1980 which provide for adequate protection of forests. In addition, there are state specific Acts and Rules also. Government of India is implementing the Centrally Sponsored Scheme of "Intensification of Forest Management Scheme" to assist the efforts of States and Union Territories (UTs) by providing financial assistance to protect and conserve the forest.
